MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): May I know from the member whether the Dewan Peishkar made any report?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): I am not aware.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Are not these Periyar floods becoming more and more frequent in recent years?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): Floods have been frequent everywhere, not only in the Periyar.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): I ask only with reference to the Periyar floods.

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): There have been more floods during the last few years.

MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Has the Public Works Department thought of any manner in which the damages from floods may be minimised?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): I claim notice.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): Are there any definite rules regulating the letting out of water from the Periyar dam to this side of Travancore?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): Yes, there are certain rules.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): Can the member tell me what they are?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): I have not got them with me.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): Do they go according to these rules?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): They are expected to abide by these rules.

MR. R. SAMBASIVA AIYAR (*Kunnatnad II*): Is the member aware that water was let out suddenly and violently this year half a dozen times?

MR. L. H. JACOB (*Ag. Chief Engineer*): I do not know.

*T. A. bills of Excise Peons.*

78.* MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*): (*a*) Are the Government aware of the fact that the Excise peons' T. A. is stopped for taking money for remittance in the treasury and for other Government purposes; and

(*b*) if so, when was it stopped?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*): (*a*) Yes. Payment of travelling allowance to the subordinates of the department escorting remittances to treasuries was discontinued by the Excise Commissioner as a measure of retrenchment.

(*b*) 1st Dhanu 1107.

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MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) : May I know from the member whether the T. A. of peons in other departments has also been reduced ?

PRESIDENT : That does not arise out of this question.

MR. K. MAHOMED (*Alwaye*) : May I know whether the Government expect these peons to remit money at their own cost.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : They are expected to walk without spending money.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : May I know the amount actually saved by effecting this retrenchment.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : The retrenchment is effected by cutting short allotments in all the Chowkeys and the total amount has not been calculated.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : What is the longest distance that an Excise peon has to travel for remitting money ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : It has not been ascertained.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : Had the Commissioner any idea of this when he effected this sort of retrenchment ? He said that the peons should walk. I wish to know what is the longest distance any peon has to walk ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : The longest distance is what he can cover by starting in the morning and returning in the evening.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : What is the longest distance that an Excise peon has to walk from the place where he collects money to the place he has to remit it ?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : I may say that the distance is only within what a man can walk.

MR. A. S. DAMODARAN ASAN (*Mavelikara*) : What is the distance?

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : A man can walk 25 or 30 miles a day. (*Laughter.*)

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : What is approximately the amount that is generally carried.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : It will vary with different Chowkeys. In Arukutty, the amount will be about Rs. 2,000 a day.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : In the Arukutty Chowkey, is it necessary to remit the amount daily.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : Yes.

MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI (*Pattanamtitta*) : What is the nearest Treasury at Arukutty.

MR. C. O. MADHAVAN (*Excise Commissioner*) : Shertala.

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**MR. E. V. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Pattanamtitta*): What is the distance between Arukutty and Shertala?

**MR. C. O. MADHAVAN** (*Excise Commissioner*): It may be 10 or 12 miles.

**MR. E V. KRISHNA PILLAI** (*Pattanamtitta*); Is it safe to entrust Rs. 2,000 to these people and allow them to walk?

**MR. C. O. MADHAVAN** (*Excise Commissioner*); It is not one peon alone. A Petty Officer and a cooly also go.

**MR. T. P. RAMASUBBA AIYAR** (*Nominated*): Is the Petty Officrs given T. A.?

**MR. C. O. MADHAVAN** (*Excise Commissioner*): No.

**MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Are the higher officers, such as Inspectors and Assistant Commissioners, obliged to walk any distance for any particular purpose?

**MR. C. O. MADHAVAN** (*Excise Commissioner*): When they have no conveyances they may have to walk. They are given the usual Travelling Allowance.

**MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Have they to walk?

**MR. C. O. MADHAVAN** (*Excise Commissioner*): Yes, they have to walk.

**MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI** (*Trivandrum-Urban*): Have they to walk 25 miles?

**MR. C. V. CHANDRASEKHARAN** (*Ag. Director of Public Instruction*): Sir, I do not think that question arises.

**PRESIDENT**: That does not arise.

**MR. T. K. VELU PILLAI** (*Trivadrum-Urban*): I bow to your ruling. But I may point out it is not for any official member to say that a supplementary question does not arise.

**PRESIDENT**: Any member may point that out.

*Taxation in kind in the Edappalli Edavaka.*

79.* **MR. K. MAHOMED** (*Alwaye*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether there have been representations for the abolition of taxation in kind in the Edappalli Edavaka;

(*b*) have the Government taken any steps in the matter; and

(*c*) if so, what was the decision arrived at?

**MR. K. GEORGE** (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) and (*c*) The Chief was requested to view the matter liberally and to alleviate the hardships and improve the condition of the tenants.

**MR. K. MAHOMED** (*Alwaye*): May I know the date on which those representations were made in the S. M. P. A. and also by memorials?

**MR. K. GEORGE** (*Chief Secretary to Government*): There were memorials since 1932.

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